

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

April 20, 2015

www.op97.org

Important Dates

Rockin' Lock In - May 1-2

Robert Crown- May 13

Transition Picnic- May 15

News

Rockin' Lock In

Our annual Lock In is scheduled for Friday, May 1 through Saturday, May 2. Permission slips were distributed last week and parents were sent an email to sign up for a mandatory shift. Please be sure to get this information in as soon as possible.

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is:
<http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - [www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) and Twitter @HolmesArt97. We are now working on comic strips. Students will be writing and illustrating a non-fiction, autobiographical, six-panel comic strip. It can be about something funny that happened to them, or something they are proud of. This week we are drawing our final copy and will begin inking the strips.

Music - <http://makingmusicatholmes.blogspot.com/> Third trimester is upon us! You should have received a pink letter with information on the assessments for 3rd trimester as well as the music for the recorder assessment. The music for the recorder assessment is also on the [fifth grade website](#). There is a video on the website as well. We will have a help session next Monday 4/27 at 11:45 for anyone who wants to work on their playing with me. If your child did not receive a pink assessment letter, please email me at akaria@op97.org

Chorus - Congratulation on a wonderful District 97 Choral Festival! I hope you all enjoyed it as much I did. We still at least one more performance this year. On May 22 (tentative date) the chorus will

perform with gold belt and a few other performance ensembles in a school assembly.

Gold Belt is working on Canon in D featuring soprano, alto, tenor, and bass recorders as well as other pieces for our spring concert. On May 22 (tentative date) the chorus will perform with gold belt and a few other performance ensembles in a school assembly. There may also be a night concert for parents to attend around that time. Details to come!

Spanish - Fifth grade has finished all activities and assessments of their superhistoria about José la rana. We will be starting new activities this week with mini historias and more.

Library - Regular Library news: We have started a long-term research project in the library using the Oak Park Public Library's shared databases to conduct our research. We are using CultureGrams to research a country of the student's choice. If you are not familiar with these databases, take a look at the library's homework help page: <http://oppl.org/services/kids/homework-help> This incredible list of databases can be used by any D97 student without a library card while at school. From home, students will need to type in a library card number and PIN. This week we will review note taking skills- summarizing information from CultureGrams in our own words to use for a later narrative.

Reading Olympics: Congratulations to Mira A., Alani E., and Caelyn P. on their win of the extreme round of reading olympics. This team of three will join the rest of District 97 as well as other local schools at the Oak Park Public Library for the **Extreme Competition** on April 27th. A round of applause for all competing teams in the fall, spring, and extreme rounds. Thank you for making this event such a fun experience. Please email mmaneck@op97.org with any questions or concerns. For more information, the library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - February is Gymnastic Unit here at Holmes. The kids will be swinging, hanging, climbing, rolling, cartwheeling, somersaulting, and many other equilibrium building balancing acts. (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com)

Reading/Literature

In Reading this week we will read non-fiction articles that relate to the American Revolution. We will also continue reading My Brother Sam Is Dead. This historical fiction novel takes place at the beginning of the American Revolution.

Writing

Students will be working on their classroom Shakespeare plays.

Math

Due PARCC testing Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, math classes will be shortened this week. At the beginning of the week, we will review writing and interpreting expressions. We will then transition to plane geometry, where our focus this week will be on naming and plotting coordinate pairs. Students will be receiving new workbooks and homework booklets. Digital copies of these books will be posted on the 5th Grade wiki by the end of the week.

Science

This week we will have a shortened schedule for science due to PARCC testing. We will study plants and photosynthesis. We will also plant numerous seeds in various growing environments, including, sun, dark, under glass, and in a tower garden without soil.

Social Studies

In Social Studies we will continue to learn about events that led to the American Revolution. As we do this we will view them from the perspectives of Loyalists, Patriots, and Native Americans. This week we will examine the Boston Massacre using primary documents written by a colonist and a British soldier. We will also analyze four different artistic depictions of the event and decide what they tell us

about their creators. Later in the week we will compare and contrast the famous poem, “Paul Revere’s Ride” by Henry Longfellow to the events that actually happened.

Spelling/Word Study

Students will complete our Building Vocabulary with Root Words curriculum during their Reading/Literature block. We learn that the bases “scrib” and “script” mean “write” and that “dict” means “say,” “speak,” or “tell.”

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We’re on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

Mr. Finkbeiner
afinkbeiner@op97.org

Ms. Kraft
fkraft@op97.org

Ms. Manuel
mmanuel@op97.org

Mr. Porter
cporter@op97.org